

will gladly pay all costs of transcription
on any parcel for me.

I have recently got up, "Manual
of Structural Botany." I hope it is not
an impertinence on my part to say
to you that, knowing, as I can say
^{so} without any vainglory, every work of
the smallest authority which has
appeared in France or England during
the past 40 years, & a fair propor-
tion of the German ones, I advisedly
maintain that your book is the
best introduction which has ever
been written. Clear & pellucid in
style, & yet giving the very latest views,
without a shade of pedantry or
pretention, surely it is unentpassible
in excellence.

With all best wishes, I remain,
my dear Dr. Gray,

Very sincerely yours
H. A. Manich.



Wampoa, 10. Aug., 1880.

My dear Dr. Gray,

I come before you as a
suppliant; and I do so, I admit,
with a guilty and compunctious feeling,
knowing how your priceless time must
be taken up with the crowning labours
of your life, the flora of N. America.
But, perhaps, you can help me with-
out any personal trouble, if you can
induce Mr. Watson, or one of the gen-
tlemen in the Harvard herbarium, to be
so charitable as to take pity on me,
if your labours allow you leisure even
to look over the pages of the Garden
Journal of Botany, you will have
noticed that for many years past
I have paid special attention to

Cupuliferæ, which I have indeed got to consider as a pet order of my own, having nearly doubled the number of Castanopsis known to A. DeCandolle, & the late Dr. Scheffer of Württemberg, having invited me to name the doubtful species in his possession, whilst Maximowicz spontaneously offered me the whole of his Japanese species to work up. I mention this in no miserable spirit of boasting, but as a proof that competent authorities regarded me as well acquainted critically with the genus.

But it has been a great vexation to me that, up to the present time, I have never been able to procure Castanopsis chrysophylla, Quercus densiflora, or indeed a single one of yr. Californian & Mexican oaks,

and, in fact, with the exception of a few of Bonpland & Hahn's, very imperfectly determined by a rabid species maker, Bourcier (exce signum! in his Mexican Ferns) no American species except those in yr. Manual. If, as I suppose, you must have a number of duplicates at Harvard which you do not care to retain, I venture to think they might be put to a worse purpose than to fill a very regrettable lacune in my herbarium. I put this to you, dear Dr. Gray, squarely, as you say in America, without the chance, probably, of my being able to make you any adequate return. My good friend and active correspondent Rev. J. C. Nevin has never been able to find me a single oak. My London agent, Mr. Mansel Thoms, 24 Brook St., Grosvenor Sq.,